



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JRTC, 100 W. RANDOLPH, SUITE 16-100
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601

PAT QUINN
GOVERNOR

March 23, 2009

Suzi Schmidt, Board Chair
Lake County
Lake County Courthouse
18 North County Street, Room 1001
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

I am pleased to announce the availability of federal funds to assist Illinois counties declared as federal disaster areas during last year's storms. In response to the federal declaration of disaster for the January-March, June-July, and September, 2008 events, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has released \$30.5 million to Illinois to assist impacted counties and individuals recover from disaster related damages and hardships.

Each declared county will receive a predetermined fund amount. Fund use will be decided locally. The counties, under the leadership of the elected county official, are to develop and implement their own individualized service model, tailored to their specific needs. Input should be sought from key stakeholders including local officials, emergency managers, community based organizations and local disaster recovery committees.

Funds may be used for social service needs resulting from the floods such as mental health, family counseling, youth services, employment services, transportation, temporary housing, temporary residential placement, child care and medical services that are a subordinate part of an ongoing social service, domestic violence intervention, rehabilitation and training for the disabled, homemaker services, case coordination, and case management.

Funds may also be used for individual needs including clothing, furniture, food, medication, household items as well as home repairs and renovations. Assistance must be deemed necessary to help meet the health care and social service needs of people affected by the disaster.

To learn more about the disaster funds available for use in your county, plan to attend the Illinois Department of Human Service's Disaster Relief Fund Information Session. During these sessions you will learn all you need to know to about fund use, access and documentation. The information sessions and the scheduled counties are as follows:

Michael Bilandic Building
160 N. LaSalle, 5th floor, Room 505
Chicago, Illinois

April 6, 2009 11:00 a.m.
Cook, Dekalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, LaSalle, Peoria, Will, and Woodford

Photo identification will be required for the Chicago location.
Illinois Department of Transportation-Auditorium
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield

April 7, 2009 10 a.m.
Iroquois, Livingston, Adams, Calhoun, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, and Edgar

Illinois Department of Transportation-Auditorium
2300 S. Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield


April 7, 2009 2 p.m.
Hancock, Henderson, Jasper, Jersey, Lake, Lawrence, Mercer, Rock Island, Whiteside, and Winnebago

If you have any questions please call or write:

Marva Arnold
Illinois Department of Human Services
401 S. Clinton, 3rd Fl
Chicago, Illinois 60607-3800
E-mail: Marva.Arnold@illinois.gov
312-793-0683

We hope to see you at the upcoming Disaster Relief Fund Information Session.

Sincerely,


Pat Quinn, Governor
State of Illinois

Cc: County Emergency Management Director ✓
State Representative Ed Sullivan, 51st District

State Representative Mark Beaubien, 52nd District
State Representative Sydney Mathias, 53rd District
State Representative Karen May, 58th District
State Representative Kathleen Ryg, 59th District
State Representative Eddie Washington, 60th District
State Representative Jo Ann Osmond, 61st District
State Representative Sandy Cole, 62nd District
State Senator Dan Duffy, 26th District
State Senator Michael Bond, 31st District
State Senator Terry Link, 30th District
State Senator Susan Garrett, 29th District